

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 SAIGON 02934 01 OF 02 152102Z

73/41

ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00 USIE-00 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01

PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 IO-10 DPW-01 AID-05 /065 W

----- 075614

O 150836Z MAR 75

FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3686

INFO COMMUSSAG NKP THAILAND IMMEDIATE

CINCPAC HONOLULU IMMEDIATE

COMIPAC HONOLULU IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 SAIGON 2934

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y - P A R A N B R T W O

FOLLOWING SENT ACTION SAIGON INFO USDAO SAIGON FROM DANANG

14 MAR 75 REPEATED TO YOU

QUOTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L DANANG 0234

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MILI, VS

SUBJ: UPDATE ON MILITARY SITUATION IN MR-1-MARCH 14

ON MARCH 14TH, I CORPS HQS REPORTED THE FOLLOWING SITUATION AS
OF THAT MORNING:

1. NORTH OF HAI VAN PASS:

IN QUANG TRI (P), A STRONGPOINT OF THE 203RD RF BATTALION
AT YD308344, 2.5 KM WEST OF HILL 300 IN HAI LANG (D), WAS LOST
AFTER A GROUND ATTACK ON THE MORNING OF MARCH 13TH. THERE
WERE A FEW OTHER SMALL SCATTERED ABF'S AND GROUND ATTACKS ON
VARIOUS RF UNITS IN HAI LANG (D).

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 SAIGON 02934 01 OF 02 152102Z

2. IN THUA THIEN (P), SEVERAL GVN UNITS WERE SUBJECTED TO

MIXED MORTAR, ROCKET, AND ARTILLERY SHELLING; PRIMARILY IN PHONG DIEN AND NAM HOA DISTRICTS. THERE WERE ALSO SCATTERED GROUND CONTACTS IN PHONG DIEN AND QUANG DIEN DISTRICTS. THE MOST SIGNIFICANT ACTION IN THUA THIEN (P) ON MARCH 13 INVOLVED THE CP AND 2 COS OF THE 1ST BN, 3RD REGT, WHICH SUFFERED HEAVY GROUND ATTACKS AND ABF AT TRAN LE TIEN BASE, YD665065, 5.5 KM SE OF PHU XUAN, IN NAM HOA (D). (COMMENT: THIS IS THE FIRST SIGNIFICANT FIGHTING IN THIS AREA, ALSO A TRADITIONAL APPROACH TO HUE, DURING THE CURRENT HIGH POINT. END COMMENT.) AT 0700 HOURS, RADIO CONTACT WITH THE BATTALION WAS LOST AND AT 0800 HOURS, NVA/VC OVERRAN THE BASE. AT 1130 HOURS, THE BN CMDR REESTABLISHED RADIO CONTACT FROM UD6700070, 4 KM NE OF THE BASE. AT 1710 HOURS, THE COMMANDER OF THE 1ST BN, 3RD REGT, AND 20 OF HIS MEN REPORTED THAT THEY WERE AT YD674068, 1 KM SE OF THE BASE WHICH HAD BEEN OVERRUN. THE FINAL RESULTS OF THIS ACTION HAVE NOT BEEN REPORTED.

TO THE SOUTHEAST OF BONG MOUNTAIN IN NAM HOA (D); ELEMENTS OF THE 1ST INFANTRY REGT AND THE 94TH AND 61ST RANGER BNS HAD SEVERAL LIGHT GROUND CONTACTS WITH NVA/VC FORCES.

AT 2330 HOURS, MARCH 12, NVA/VC ABDUCTED 9 PSDF MEMBERS, WITH THEIR INDIVIDUAL WEAPONS, AT YD820169, 2 KM WEST OF HUONG THUY DISTRICT TOWN.

ON THE NORTH SIDE OF THE HAI VAN PASS IN PHU LOC (D), THE 111TH ABN CO HAD A GROUND CONTACT, AND THE 114TH ABN CO RECEIVED A LIGHT MORTAR SHELLING.

3. SOUTH OF THE HAI VAN PASS:

IN GENERAL, LIGHT NVA/VC ACTIVITY CONTINUES IN QUANG NAM (P), WITH NO SIGNIFICANT COMBAT ACTIVITY REPORTED. SAPPER ATTACKS AGAINST THE DANANG TO HUE RAILROAD, HIGHWAY ONE, AND INTER-PROVINCIAL ROUTE 4 HAVE RESUMED. THE FIRST SAPPER ATTACK OCCURRED USING AUTOMATIC MINES BETWEEN 0100 AND 1100 HOURS ON 13 MAR AND DESTROYED 10 METERS OF THE DANANG TO HUE RAILROAD AT AT941819, 3 KM SE OF NAM O (H), HOA HIEP (V), HOA VANG (D). AT 1430 HOURS NVA/VC FROGMEN USED MINES TO DESTROY TWO SPANS OF THE DAI BRIDGE, IN DAI LOC (D), WHICH WAS GUARDED BY THE 194TH AND 206TH PLTS. TRAFFIC HAS BEEN INTERRUPTED. AT 0600 HOURS NVA/VC BLEW UP A CULVERT ON INTER-PROVINCIAL ROUTE 4 AT BT003567, 7 KM SW OF DIEN BAN (D) TOWN. TRAFFIC IS PROCEEDING FOR LIGHT VEHICLES ONLY; THE CULVERT WAS DAMAGED

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 SAIGON 02934 01 OF 02 152102Z

40 PER CENT. AT 0730 HOURS NVA/VC FORCES BLEW UP ANOTHER CULVERT ON INTER-PROVINCIAL ROUTE 4. THIS CULVERT WAS LOCATED AT AT 898570, 2.5 KM SW OF DAI LOC (D) TOWN. THE CULVERT WAS GUARDED BY THE 205TH PF PLT. TRAFFIC HAS BEEN INTERRUPTED AND TWO CIVILIANS WERE WOUNDED IN THE ATTACK.

4. IN QUANG TIN (P), ON 12 MARCH 75 AT 1930 HOURS, NVA/VC FORCES ATTACKED AND OVERRAN YON THANH POST, BT312159, 3 KM

E OF HILL 159 IN TAM KY (D). AT 1730 HOURS ON 13 MARCH A PF
PLT SUBORDINATE TO TAM KY SUBSECTOR ASSIGNED TO RECAPTURE THE
POST WAS DRIVEN BACK BY THE NVA/VC. ONE GVN WIA WAS REPORTED
RESULTING FROM THE ATTEMPT. AT 0600H NVA/VC FORCES ATTACKED
A STRONG POINT, BT245134, (STRENGTH APPROX 1 PLT) MANNED BY
AN ELEMENT OF THE 1ST CO, 133D RF BN, 4 KM SW OF HILL 159,
TAM KY (D). NVA/VC AT 0700 HOURS ATTACKED THE 1ST CO, 133D
RF BN, BT245134, AND AT 0800 HOURS CONTACT WITH THE ABOVE UNITS
WAS REPORTED LOST. TWENTY-ONE SOLDIERS OF THE ABOVE COMPANY
ESTABLISHED CONTACT AT 1345 HOURS AND REPORTED THEIR
POSITION TO BE BT237147. GVN CASUALTIES IN THE CONTACT WERE
NOT REPORTED. BETWEEN 0925 AND 1010 HOURS NVA/VC FORCES SHELLED
THE CP OF THE 133D RF BN LOCATED AT HILL 159, BT288158, IN
TAM KY (D) AND ATTACKED THE 3D CO OF THIS BN AT BT267154,
2 KM W OF HILL 159. TWENTY-SEVEN SHELTERS WERE REPORTED
DESTROYED.

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 SAIGON 02934 02 OF 02 151226Z

41

ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00 USIE-00 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01

PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 IO-10 DPW-01 AID-05 /065 W

----- 071762

O 150836Z MAR 75

FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3687

INFO COMMUSSAG NKP THAILAND IMMEDIATE

CINCPAC HONOLULU IMMEDIATE

COMIPAC HONOLULU IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 2 SAIGON 2934

I ON MARCH 13, 1975,ELEMENTS OF THE 12TH RANGER GROUP
CONTINUED THEIR ATTEMPTS TO TAKE DUONG CON MT, BT181205,
AND BETWEEN 0900 AND 1520 HOURS HAD CONTACT WITH NVA/VC
FORCES AT BT194205, 5 KM NE OF PHUOC TIEN (V), TIEN PHUOC
(D). RANGERS REPORTED NO CASUALTIES; NVA/VC 9 KIA. EAST OF
THIS CONTACT, AT BT184206, BETWEEN 0900 AND 1700HOURS
RANGERS ALSO HAD CONTACT WITH NVA/VC FORCES, 5 KM N OF PHUOC

TIEN (V), TIEN PHUOC (D); RANGER CASUALTIES WERE 1 KIA, AND 12 WIA; NVA/VC, UNKNOWN. SLIGHTLY TO THE NW, AT BT183207, RANGERS HAD CONTACT WITH NVA/VC FORCES FROM 1600-1830 HOURS. IN THIS CONTACT RANGER CASUALTIES WERE REPORTED AS 2 KIA, 5 WIA AND 3 MIA; NVA/VC, 5 KIA.

AT 0655 MARCH 13, ELEMENTS OF THE 5TH REGT HAD A CONTACT WITH A NVA/VC FORCE AT BT235140, 5 KM SW OF HILL 159, IN TAM KY (D). RADIO CONTACT WITH THESE ELEMENTS WERE REPORTED LOST AT 0740 HOURS. AT 1900 HOURS RADIO CONTACT WAS REESTABLISHED, WITH 5TH REGT CASUALTIES REPORTED AS 1 KIA, 8 WIA AND 27 MIA; NVA/VC, UNKNOWN. AT 1040 HOURS ANOTHER ELEMENT OF THE 5TH REGT HAD CONTACT AT BT226160, 4 KM NE OF PHUOC TIEN (V), TIEN PHUOC (D). THE RESULTS OF THIS CONTACT IS UNKNOWN. CONTACT WITH NVA/VC FORCES WAS REPORTED AGAIN AT 1300 HOURS, 4 KM N OF PHUOC TIEN (V), TIEN PHUOC (D), BT225159. GVN SUSTAINED 1 WIA. FURTHER SOUTH AT BT237143 5TH REGT FORCES HAD CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 SAIGON 02934 02 OF 02 151226Z

CONTACT WITH NVA/VC FORCES AND SUSTAINED CASUALTIES OF 8 WIA; NVA/VC CASUALTIES UNKNOWN. NO GROUND ACTION WAS REPORTED IN THE IMMEDIATE VIC OF HILL 159. ABF ACTIVITY WAS LIGHT. TOTALING 10 RDS OF 60MM MORTAR.

AN L19 OBSERVATION AIRCRAFT FLYING FOR THE 2ND INF DIV SPOTTED 4 NVA TANKS AT BT022214, 12 KM N OF TIEN PHUOC (D). ARTY FIRE WAS REQUESTED BY THE AIR OBSERVER; THE RESULTS ARE NOT KNOWN. BETWEEN 1130-1235 HOURS A L19 AIR OBSERVATION AIRCRAFT SPOTTED 3 NVA TANKS AT BT132176, 300 METERS NW OF PHU MY MT AND A GROUP OF TANKS AND MOLOTOVA TRUCKS AT BT175136, 2 KM SW OF PHUOC TIEN (V), TIEN PHUOC (D). AN AIRSTRIKE WAS CALLED IN AT BT175136, AND 4 TANKS AND 2 MOLOTOVA TRUCKS, LOADING FUEL AND AMMO WERE REPORTED DESTROYED.

I CORPS HQS REPORTS THAT AS OF 13 MARCH, 936 RF MEMBERS (REPORTED MIA FROM THE 102ND, 134TH, 116TH, 135TH, 131ST RF BNS, 722ND, 744TH, 928TH RF COS AND 916TH RF MOBILE GROUP), 262 PF MEMBERS (FROM TAM KY (D), AND TIEN PHUOC (D) SUBSECTORS) AND 72 FAMILIES (TOTALING 210 PEOPLE FROM TIEN PHUOC DISTRICT) HAVE REPORTED TO QUANG TIN SECTOR HQS.

5. IN QUANG NGAI (P) LIGHT CONTACTS AND ABFS CONTINUED WITH NO CONCENTRATED OR SIGNIFICANT INCIDENTS REPORTED.

6. AIR SUPPORT FROM 131010-1820 HOURS: NORTH OF THE HAI VAN PASS THE 1ST AIR DIV FLEW SORTIES IN THE VICINITY OF TRAN LE TIEN BASE, YD665062 TO YD664066. RESULTS RECORDED INCLUDE 5 NVA/VC HOUSES, 15 FOXHOLES AND 10 METERS OF TRENCHES DESTROYED. SIX SORTIES WERE FLOWN IN THE LAM THANH BO AREA, YD945168. RESULTS WERE RECORDED AS UNKNOWN. TWENTY-SIX SORTIES WERE FLOWN SOUTH OF THE HAI VAN PASS AGAINST TARGETS IN TIEN PHUOC (D), QUANG TIN (P). SIX TANKS, 2 MOLOTOVA TRUCKS DESTROYED AND 2 SECONDARY EXPLOSIONS.

TULL UNQUOTE
LEHMANN

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: COMBAT OPERATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 15 MAR 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: izenbei0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975SAIGON02934
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750091-1067
From: SAIGON
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750347/aaaabqbc.tel
Line Count: 225
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 5
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: izenbei0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 28 JUL 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <28 JUL 2003 by KelleyW0>; APPROVED <20 NOV 2003 by izenbei0>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: UPDATE ON MILITARY SITUATION IN MR-1-MARCH 14 ON MARCH 14TH, I CORPS HQS REPORTED THE FOLLOWING SITUATION AS
TAGS: MILI, MOPS, VS
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006